

**Fredrick at Workforce Investment Board SDA-83**  
**Northeast Louisiana Professional Healthcare Opportunities—Careers and Support Project**  
**(The NELA PHOCAS Project)**

When Fredrick applied for sponsorship through PHOCAS, he was enrolled in a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) program, but there were serious concerns that he would not complete the program. To support himself and his educational pursuits, Fredrick was working two jobs—one as a certified nursing assistant and the second as a ward clerk. This left little time for the rigorous study that was required for the program and for learning the skills that he wanted to master.

The financial assistance provided through the HPOG program made it possible for Fred to leave one of his jobs, so he could focus on his education. Extremely enthusiastic about the LPN program, Fredrick's monthly timesheets demonstrated 100 percent attendance and excellent progress. Although the LPN program was very strenuous, Fredrick's positive attitude and energetic approach made him an inspiration to his fellow classmates. It was encouraging for the whole PHOCAS program to watch him come closer to his goal.

Fredrick graduated from the LPN program at Northeast Louisiana Technical College – Winnsboro Campus on May 10, 2011. He then passed his State board exam and found a position as an LPN on the medical surgical floor at the Franklin Medical Center.

Fredrick was very grateful for the PHOCAS program because he knew he could not afford the LPN training on his own. Because he now has a stable income, he has also been able to buy himself a dependable car. Fredrick is continuing to work hard to further advance in his career. Although his salary is now twice what he was previously earning, that pales in comparison to the increased self-esteem and pride that Fredrick has after going through the program. In April 2012, Fredrick began taking Registered Nurse (RN) courses. He recently reported to his case manager that his courses are going well—he spends a lot of time reading!